

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /083 W

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R 281908Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7323

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0206

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ETRN, XL

SUBJ: GOTT RECEIVES REPLY ON LIAT

REF: POS 2342, SEPTEMBER 27, 1974

1. ERROL MAHABIR, GOTT MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE (ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL AVIATION), RECENTLY TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN COMMON MARKET (ECCM) SECRETARIAT HAS REPLIED TO THE ELEVEN QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE TRINIDAD GOVERNMENT CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF LIAT (REFTEL). MAHABIR SAID THAT THE GOTT HAS APPOINTED A COMMITTEE OF THREE SENIOR OFFICIALS TO STUDY THE ECCM DOCUMENT AND ALSO ONE RECEIVED FROM CDB. HE POINTEDLY NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH TRINIDAD HAD WRITTEN INDIVIDUAL LETTERS TO ALL THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED WITH PROPOSALS FOR FINANCING THE AIRLINE, NO REPLIES HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM ANY OF THEM. THE MINISTER CONFIRMED THAT THE GOTT HAD BEEN INVITED TO A MEETING TO DISCUSS LIAT, BUT SAID THAT THE TRINIDAD GOVERNMENT HAD DEMURRED UNTIL THE ELEVEN QUESTIONS HAD BEEN ANSWERED.

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2. COMMENT: JUDGING FROM MAHABIR'YSKEMARK ABOUT AWAITING
RMSPLIES FROM EASTERN CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS, IT SEEMS CLEAR
THAT THE GOTT'S POSITION ON PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO LIAT
HAS NOT CHANGED. WE DOUBT THAT TRINIDAD WILL TAKE ANY
STEPS REGARDING LIAT WHILE PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS IS ON
AN EXTENDED TRIP TO ASIA AND THE U.S.
MILLER

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NNN

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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